

Water Infrastructure Security: EPA's Role and Progress

National Source Water Protection Conference June 2, 2003

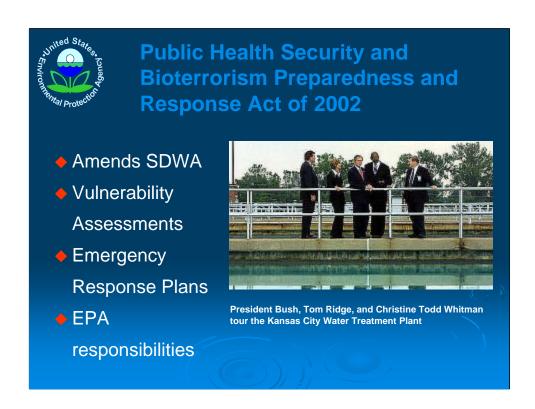


Overview of Presentation

- Implementing Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Response Act of 2002
- EPA's Homeland Security Strategic Plan
- Challenges



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Threat Document

Baseline information regarding kinds of attacks and probable threats

Key components of VA

Determination of level of threat

Types of Attacks

Guidance for systems serving less than 3,300 persons

Information Protection Protocol

Research

Methods to prevent, detect and respond to contamination.

Methods to prevent disruption of the water supply

Methods of providing alternative DW supplies

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EPA received \$90 million to support systems is this effort for current and future efforts.



- Goal 1 -- Enhance Security of Water and Wastewater Utilities
- Six tactics
 - Tools, Training and Financial Assistance
 - Research and Technology Development
 - Build Security into Ongoing Practices
 - Information Exchange on Threats and Incidents
 - Coordination with Law Enforcement, Emergency Response,
 Medical and Lab Sectors
 - Coordination with Interdependent Infrastructures

"Making the Most Systems Safest the Soonest"



Tools, Training and Financial Assistance

- Vulnerability Assessment Tools and Training
- Threat Document and Threat Level Guidance
- Large System Grants
- Small and Medium System Strategy
- Train-the-trainer for small systems (3,300-50K)
- Workshops/consultation services for medium systems (50K-100K)
- Emergency Response Guidance
- Security Enhancements Guide

- •Threat document and treat level guidance (e.g., what systems might do at various threat levels).
- •Small and medium system strategy (relies heavily on the states).
- •Workshops (a process for awarding grants).
- Emergency response guidance –
 Association of State Drinking Water Administrators
- •A consumers enhancement guide to help with security



- Assessment on Contaminants
 - Contaminant Database
- Assessment of Lab Capabilities

Methods to prevent, detect and respond to contamination.

Methods to prevent disruption of the water supply

Methods of providing alternative DW supplies



Build Security into Ongoing Practices

- Operator Certification
- Training for States/Sanitary Survey
- Capacity Development/Asset
 Management/Environmental Management
 Systems



Information Exchange

- Information Exchange on Threats and Incidents: Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center www.waterisac.org
- Coordination with and training for emergency responders, public health officials, medical community, law enforcement
- Coordination with interdependent infrastructure

<u>www.waterisac.org</u>; a secure website with sensitive information open (but limited) to water systems, state administrators, etc.

Coordination with interdependent infrastructure (e.g., electrical and telecommunications). The Department of Homeland Security has a big role with this.



Challenges

- Information sensitivity
- Actions to reduce risk—look for multiple benefits
 - Sound business practices—Incorporating Security into "Business as Usual"
 - System upgrades
 - Security upgrades
- Planning for emergencies—"Four P's"
 - Partner
 - Protect
 - Plan
 - Practice



<u>www.epa.gov/nhsrc</u> (National Homeland Security Resource Center)